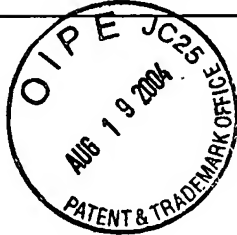


ARNOLD & PORTER LLP



August 19, 2004

Thomas E. Holsten
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Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Art Unit: 1638
Examiner: S.F. Baum
Conf. No.: 8916

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/024,632 filed December 19, 2001
Inventors: Steve Sichuan HE *et al.*
Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules Associated with Plant Cell Proliferation
and Growth and Uses Thereof
Atty. Dkt: 16517.327

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) are the following documents:

1. Response to Office Action mailed May 19, 2004, including replacement Figure 2 (2 pages); and
2. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

In the event that extensions of time beyond those petitioned for herewith are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any additional fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any additional fees are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter LLP Deposit Account No. 50-2387, referencing docket number 16517.327.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Holsten (Reg. No. 46,098)
David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)

Enclosures



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Steve Sichuan HE *et al.*

Appln. No.: 10/024,632

Filed: December 19, 2001

For: Nucleic Acid Molecules Associated With Plant Cell Proliferation and Growth and
Uses Thereof

Conf. No.: 8916

Art Unit: 1638

Examiner: Stuart F. Baum

Atty. Docket: 16517.327

Response to Office Action mailed May 19, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed May 19, 2004, ("Office Action")
Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on
page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 3 of this paper and includes an
attached replacement sheet.